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Andrew Jackson to John T. Sullivan et al, April 14, 1833, from Correspondence of Andrew Jackson. Edited by John Spencer Bassett.

TO JOHN T. SULLIVAN, PETER WAGER, AND HENRY D. GILPIN.1

1 Handwriting of Amos Kendall.

Washington, April 14, 1833.

Gentlemen, Your letter of the 4th inst. has this moment been received. In reply I have to remark, that the information requested is for my own satisfaction, and I do not wish it extended beyond the personal knowledge of the government directors. In case of a gross violation of the charter, it is my duty to run a scire facias against the Bank. If the rumors I have heard be true, it will probably be incumbent on me to do so, and those rumors relate to proceedings which must have come within the personal knowledge or observation of some of you. If they shall be confirmed by your report, I shall not only be able to judge of my particular duty; but may, if thought proper, cause to be made through the Secretary of the Treasury that more formal and thorough investigation which you suggest.

In conclusion I would remark, that the discounts granted to individuals are not deemed to constitute those private accounts which by the charter are so carefully guarded; but that provision only embraces the Debtor and Creditor accounts of individuals on the Book of the Bank. If any discounts be corruptly or improperly granted, it is not only deemed right, but in agg[r]avated cases the duty of the government directors to communicate the facts to the government.

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